

10/018807

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2994.1

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
TOSHIAKI KUMAZAWA, ET AL.)
: Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Application No.: (National Phase of PCT)
Application No. PCT/JP99/03427))
:)
Filed: Currently herewith)
:)
For: CARRIER FOR IMMUNOASSAY)
AND SOLID PHASE FOR)
IMMUNOASSAY CONTAINING)
THE SAME) December 20, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to action on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 12, 15 and 16 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of these claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

12. (Amended) The carrier for immunoassay according to claim 9, wherein said substrate is porous and said surface of said carrier is porous.

15. (Amended) The solid phase for immunoassay [according to claim 14] obtainable by binding an immunoactive substrate to a solid phase for immunoassay obtainable by binding an immunoreactive substance to a carrier for immunoassay which comprises, at least on surface thereof, a hydrophobic material, and blocking the resulting carrier by coating exposed area of said hydrophobic material with an amphipathic substance , wherein said carrier for immunoassay is the carrier for immunoassay according to any one of claims 1 to 8.

16. (Amended) The solid phase for immunoassay according to claim 15, wherein said amphipathic substance is a surfactant.

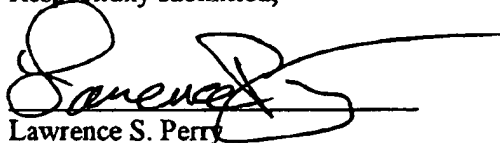
REMARKS

The claims have been amended to correct their dependency and conformity with accepted U.S. practice. No new matter has been added.

Entry hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lawrence S. Perry", written over a horizontal line.

Lawrence S. Perry
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

12. (Amended) The carrier for immunoassay according to [any one of] claim[s] 9 [to 11], wherein said substrate is porous and said surface of said carrier is porous.

15. (Amended) The solid phase for immunoassay [according to claim 14] obtainable by binding an immunoactive substrate to a solid phase for immunoassay obtainable by binding an immunoreactive substance to a carrier for immunoassay which comprises, at least on surface thereof, a hydrophobic material, and blocking the resulting carrier by coating exposed area of said hydrophobic material with an amphipathic substance, wherein said carrier for immunoassay is the carrier for immunoassay according to any one of claims 1 to [13] 8.

16. (Amended) The solid phase for immunoassay according to claim [14 or] 15, wherein said amphipathic substance is a surfactant.